manner, of their capacity entitlement and access to more Indian ports by 2007.

(c) Increase in traffic rights is considered during bilateral civil aviation consultations in the background of growth in traffic between the two countries based on the principle of reciprocity and mutual advantage.

Regular flights to Kanpur

1646. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken by Government to provide regular air flights to Kanpur, a commercial city of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country. It is, however, upto the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability subject to compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines issued by Government.

Comprehensive map for development of Civil Aviation

1647. SHRI ABANI ROY:
SHRI R.P. GOENKA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a comprehensive road map for the development of civil aviation sector is being prepared;

(b) if so, the outline thereof togetherwith its present status;

(c) the details of the areas identified for focussed attention and thrust to make air travel affordable and hassle-free and also to improve the operational efficiency of the aviation industry so as to face competition from the private airlines; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken to ascertain the views of the various concerned interests in formulating the new road map?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) Government has constituted a five-member Committee on 21.7.2003 to prepare a road map for civil aviation sector that will provide the basis for a New Civil Aviation Policy. The Committee may consult/invite any expert it may consider useful and interact with institutions, individuals and organisations connected with or interested in civil aviation.

Recovery of dues from travel agents

1648. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that failure of Indian Airlines to ensure proper and timely remittance of dues has resulted in a blockage of huge amount which runs into several crores of rupees with the Travel Agents authorised by the I.A.;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on 31st March, 2003;

(c) how much amount is outstanding against them for the last two years; and

(d) what steps have been taken to recover the outstanding dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) A sum of Rs.2.06 crores is due from agents arising during last two years *i.e.* 2001-02 and 2002-03. The agents generate revenue over Rs. 3500 crores annually for Indian Airlines. The outstanding of Rs. 2.06 crores, is 0.03% of the turnover generated by agents.

Indian Airlines has laid down comprehensive guidelines in respect of the appointment of agents, payment procedures and other safeguards to protect its financial interests by obtaining bank guarantees and insurance coverage etc. Indian Airlines has taken various steps to liquidate the dues such as invoking of the bank guarantee, initiating legal proceedings, taking up with Travel Agents Association of India/ International Air Transport Association etc. A statement showing details of these cases including status of recovery action is enclosed as Statement.